

PH 0506451

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 25 1977

DATE ENTERED

MAR 21 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

**

LIHUE HONGWANJI MISSION

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Map of Lihue out
Kapaia, HI 36

CITY, TOWN

Lihue, Kauai

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Hawaii

VICINITY OF

CODE

15

COUNTY

Kauai

CODE

007

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Lihue Hongwanji Mission

STREET & NUMBER

Kapaia

CITY, TOWN

Lihue, Kauai

STATE

Hawaii

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bureau of Conveyances

STREET & NUMBER

425 Queen Street

CITY, TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Hawaii Register of Historic Places

DATE

September 1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Hawaii Register of Historic Places

CITY, TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Construction of the Temple buildings was started in 1901 and was completed with the arrival of the embellishments from Japan in February 1903. It is a simple, single story wood frame structure.

The main body of the structure has a hip roof with small gable ends under the ridge at either end of the building. Windows are rectangular, double hung with small pediments in the traditional curved form of the Japanese Genkon entry roofs. The entry roof is in gable form with exposed ridge trim and small scalloped gable trim which symbolizes bridge tile and decorative piece.

The roof is supported by two square wooden columns from the raised front entry porch with wooden balustrades spanning from the wall to the wooden posts.

Entry to the building is by sliding wood frame, glass doors that open the full width of the porch. The structure on the interior is a single space with a large altar on the opposite side facing the entry. The remainder of the space between the entry and the altar is reserved for the worshippers.

While simple in detail, this small early 1900 Japanese temple is very well proportioned and has been well cared for over the years. It represents a good example of immigrants to Hawaii from Japan trying to recreate the religious edifices that they left behind in their own country. The building is now located in a complex of modern structures related with the mission. There is a school building, a large modern temple, and a residence for the Priest.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1901 (Temple Started) BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lihue Hongwanji Mission is the oldest Japanese Buddhist Mission still in existence on Kauai, built by laborers imported from Japan expressly for this purpose. The temple is significant in that it reinforced Japanese ties to the mother country by preserving the language, education and cultural foundations, of immigrant Japanese laborers.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the Hongwanji Mission in Kauai was organized under the leadership of Rev. Kenyu Arai who came from Japan. Arai was encouraged by the Plantation management to stimulate the growth of religion among the workers as a means of social control. Carl Wolters, the Manager of the Lihue Plantation Co. donated plantation land in the Company's name for a temple which was completed in late 1901. Two years later in 1903, Rev. Arai returned to Japan and the Rev. Hiseki Miyasaki succeeded Arai. He stayed on for 45 years during which time the mission grew. Sunday school classes began in 1901 and several Buddhist organizations and a Japanese language school were established. The language school became the most important of the Mission.

After the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor in 1941, many Japanese Buddhist Priests in Hawaii were rounded up and sent to "relocation camps" on the Mainland as a security measure. The Rev. and Mrs. Miyasaki were among them. The affairs of the Mission continued under the direction of Yukito Sakai until the Miyasakis' returned in March 1946 to resume their work. Rev. Miyasaki died two years later on February 24, 1948.

With the passing of Rev. Miyasaki, the first phase of the Mission's history came to a close. The war interrupted many of the Mission's activities while fear of anti-Japanese feeling undoubtedly led to a desire by the Mission members to let the language school and Japanese associations languish.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lihue Hongwanji Mission Dedication Program 1965
Telephone Conversation with Rev. Kondo

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15,000 Sq. ft. less than one
~~1.719 Acres~~

UTM REFERENCES

A	0, 4	45, 19, 28	24, 3, 22, 50	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

THE LAND AS SUBMITTED ON 01.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Larry Miller (Historian) and Robert M. Fox (Architect)

ORGANIZATION

State Historic Preservation Office

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 621

CITY OR TOWN

Honolulu

DATE

Fall 1974

TELEPHONE

548-7460

STATE

Hawaii 96809

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Jane L. Silveira

February 27, 1978

TITLE

Hawaii State Preservation Officer

DATE

September 21, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature]

DATE

3-2-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *[Signature]*

DATE

3-17-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Third generation children (sansei) received their Buddhist education in English. The Sunday school and youth programs of the Mission were re-established under the direction of Rev. Shodo Umehara, who became Minister in July 1948. Rev. Umehara carried the expansion of the Mission forward by encouraging planned growth. The Mission purchased the adjoining property in August 1956, and bought part of the Lihue Plantation property in late 1957. In 1958, the Mission became incorporated in order to provide for its maintenance and plan for a progressive future.

More activities were encouraged--an Aikido class, a 4-H club, and other projects had their start at this time. In 1959, Rev. Umehara transferred to the Aiea Hongwanji Mission in Honolulu and was replaced by the Rev. Bunyu Terayama, the Minister of Waimea Hongwanji Mission of Kauai.

Decreased anti-Japanese hostility had led to a greater appreciation by all members of the community toward things Japanese. The congregation of the Lihue Hongwanji Mission felt secure enough to push for the reactivation of the Heiwa Gakuen or language school in order to teach the Japanese children their ancestral language. The school was re-opened in 1960.

A new temple building was dedicated on the last week on January 1965. Rev. Ryosho Kondo is the current Minister of the Mission.